Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A process for preventing frauds with regard to a taxi equipped with an electronic taximeter ~~(1)~~ possessing a "for hire" position and a tariff position, which is associated with a printer whose job is to print, at the end of each trip, a receipt intended to be given to the customer, said printer having at least its printing head ~~(20)~~ mechanically separate from the taximeter ~~(1)~~, but being electrically connected to ~~it, which consists in~~ the taximeter, the process comprising detecting the occurrence of a disconnection of the printing head ~~(20)~~ of the printer with respect to the taximeter ~~(1)~~, and as the case may be:

- if the disconnection occurred while the taximeter is in the "for hire" position, in prohibiting subsequent switching of the taximeter into tariff position, for as long as this disconnection endures; <u>and</u>

- if the disconnection occurred while the taximeter is in the tariff position, ~~in~~ triggering an antifraud action.

2. (**Currently Amended**) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the anti-fraud action ~~consists in~~ comprises neutralizing the taximeter, so that it is necessary to break a seal and/or to call on the authorities in charge of monitoring taximeters to reauthorize the operation of the neutralized taximeter.

3. (**Currently Amended**) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the antifraud action ~~consists in~~ comprises saving the occurrence of the disconnection in a journal file or a memory contained in the taximeter, ~~and wherein it is not possible to~~ which memory cannot be erased without breaking a seal and/or calling on the authorities in charge of monitoring taximeters.

4. (**Currently Amended**) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the antifraud action ~~consists moreover~~ comprises ~~in~~ making an item of information appear on a ticket.

5. (**Currently Amended**) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the neutralization of the taximeter transpires when the ~~latter~~ taximeter subsequently exits from the tariff position.

6. (**Currently Amended**) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detection of a disconnection of the

printing head ~~(20)~~ of the printer takes place at least during
the request to switch from the "for hire" position to the
tariff position.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The process as claimed in
claim 1, wherein the detection of a disconnection of the
printing head ~~(20)~~ of the printer takes place at least during
the request to print the receipt.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The process as claimed in
claim 1, wherein if the disconnection occurs while the
taximeter is in the "for hire" position, the ~~latter~~
<u>disconnection</u> is signaled by the taximeter.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The process as claimed in
claim 1, wherein if the disconnection occurs while the
taximeter is in the tariff position, the ~~latter~~ <u>disconnection</u>
is signaled by the taximeter.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The process as claimed in
claim 8, wherein the signaling takes place by display on the
dial ~~(6)~~ of the taximeter, or the emission of an alarm signal.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The process as claimed in
claim 9, wherein the signaling of the disconnection takes
place alternatively with the displaying of the total for the
trip.

12. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the disconnection of the printing head of the printer is detected by the monitoring of signals dispatched by the printing head ~~(20)~~ destined for the remainder of the printer or the taximeter.

13. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the signals monitored are line return pulses or character synchronization pulses.

14. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the signals monitored are signals emitted by an electronic module present in the printing head, in response to monitoring signals generated by the remainder of the printer or the taximeter.

15. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the disconnection of the printer is detected by monitoring the electrical consumption of the printing head.

16. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein mechanically secure connectors ~~which cannot be unplugged other than deliberately~~ are employed for the connector or connectors for plugging in the printing head.

17. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein it consists moreover in~~ checking the paper

supply to the printing head, and ~~in~~ triggering the antifraud action in the case where this supply is insufficient to allow correct printing of the receipt.

18. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the checking of the paper supply is performed during the request to print the receipt.

19. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the checking of the paper supply makes it possible to detect the absence of the roll of paper associated with the printing head.

20. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 19, wherein the checking of the paper supply makes it possible to detect that the length of the paper present on the roll is sufficient to allow the complete printing of the receipt.

21. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the triggering of the antifraud action takes place after the checking, following the elapsing of a predetermined duration sufficient for the replacement of the paper roll.